

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 848

By Cooper

A RESOLUTION to recognize Shepperson A. Wilbun, Jr., Third Annual Living Legend Awards honoree.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we should specially recognize those estimable individuals who have dedicated their time and energies toward enhancing the quality of life in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one such individual is Shepperson "Shep" A. Wilbun, Jr., who is being honored at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards in recognition of the leadership and service he has provided to the people of Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, the Third Annual Living Legend Awards ceremony, which honors Harriet Tubman and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., will be held at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on March 8, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Shep Wilbun has diligently served his fellow Memphians for more than three decades; he began his civil service career in October 1989 as a Memphis City Councilman; he became the first African-American Operations Budget Chairman in the history of the City of Memphis in 1993 and remained in service to his city as a councilman until August 1994, when he was elected to the Shelby County Board of Commissioners, which he served until December 2000; and

WHEREAS, in December 2000, Mr. Wilbun was appointed to fill the balance of the unexpired term of the Shelby County Juvenile Court Clerk; he served in this capacity until August 2002, implementing programs to heal distressed families and increasing community awareness of juvenile issues; and

WHEREAS, Shep Wilbun served as the Frayser Neighborhood Site Director for the Building Neighborhood Capacity Program under President Obama's Neighborhood

Revitalization Initiative from November 2012 to March 2015; currently, he serves as chief of the Diversity Supplier Office for Shelby County, responsible for the oversight and implementation of the county's Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (M/WBE) program, and runs his own construction company; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader among his peers, Mr. Wilbun served as president of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials in 1996 and as vice chairman of the Economic Development Subcommittee of the National Association of Counties from 1996 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, a 1974 graduate of Dartmouth College, Shep Wilbun earned his degree in urban planning and sociology; he received a Master of Architecture degree from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1980; and

WHEREAS, he enjoys the love and support of his wife, Ramona, and their three children, and he is a proud member of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church; and

WHEREAS, Shepperson A. Wilbun, Jr., is an exemplary individual; his commitment to excellence and community service is representative of the Volunteer State, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we congratulate Shepperson A. Wilbun, Jr., upon his recognition at the Third Annual Living Legend Awards, applaud his outstanding community leadership, and extend our best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.